

Communism

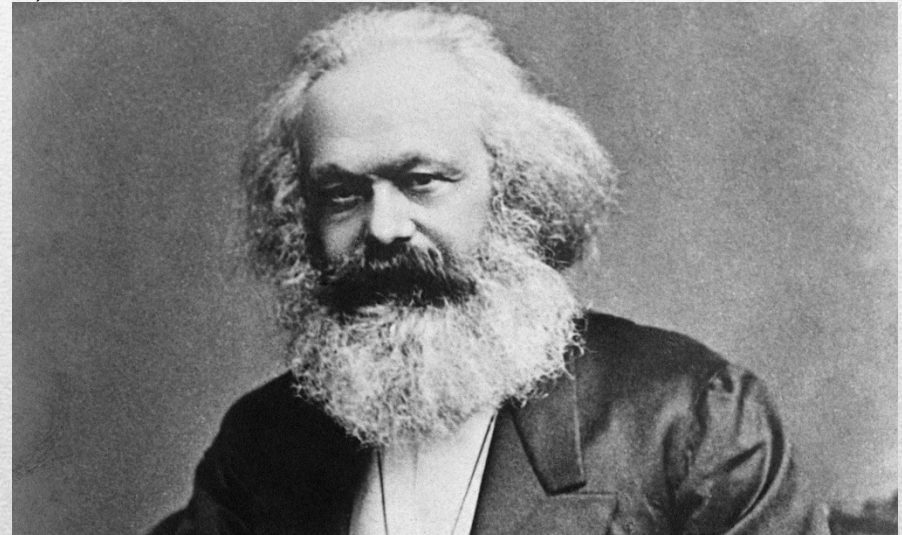
An introduction to the philosophy



This presentation was developed for the Center for Slavic and East European Studies
at The Ohio State University by Kathryn Metz

Karl Marx

- 19th century German philosopher, economist, sociologist, journalist and revolutionary scientist
- Critic of capitalism
- Developed Marxist Communism
- Wrote the *Communist Manifesto* with Friedrich Engels

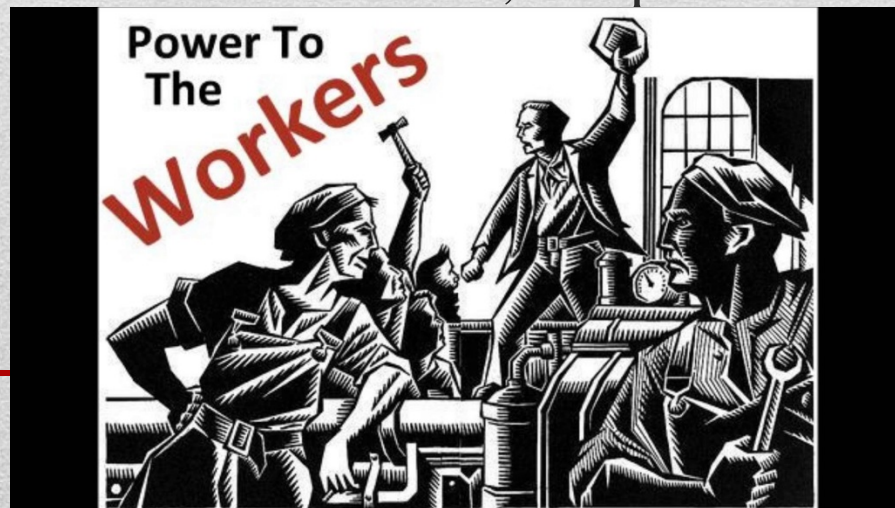


Marx's Critique of Capitalism

- “Capitalist” vs. “Proletariat”
 - Capitalist = Factory owner
 - Proletariat = Factory worker
 - Problem → Worker is Exploited
 - proletariat (worker) creates the product, but capitalist earns the most money
 - Worker is vulnerable because capitalist can fire them
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Marx's Solution

- Workers should not tolerate this economic system
- Workers will become politically conscious and they will overthrow capitalistic society
- Need a **CLASSLESS** society where everyone is equal and the people own the factories, not private individuals



Socialism



- *Transitional phase* before communism
 - “**Dictatorship of the Proletariat**”
 - Workers will run the country, they know how to create a just society
 - Philosophy: “From each according to his ability to each according to his work”
 - Reward based on **contribution** to society
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Communism

- **Philosophy:** “From each according to his ability to each according to his **needs.**”
 - Attainable only after the transitional period of socialism
 - There will be such *surplus* that everyone has what they need
 - **KINGDOM OF FREEDOM**
 - Absence of classes, government, private ownership and money.
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- What do you think of this philosophy?



- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qElx_EyTTKA

Activity/Videos
